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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and illustrations for publication will send them to the Editor, they will be in all cases sent to that purpose.

TELEPHONE, BEEKMAN 2200.

A Billion Bushels of Wheat.

The billion bushels of wheat that will be harvested in the United States this year, according to estimates based on the Agricultural Department's survey and forecast, do not mean that there will be flour to waste.

They do mean that we shall be able to supply the needs of our army and navy, the necessities of the Allies and have enough left to keep us in comfort. When the new crop comes into the market the possibility of extreme want that has hung over us will be removed, but we shall not be free to return to the extravagant customs of the past.

This implies no hardship. Nobody has actually suffered because of lack of white flour since conservation of wheat was forced on us. The use of substitutes has been a slight inconvenience to some, but most of us have become accustomed to it and do not notice the difference.

The average normal consumption of wheat in the United States is 500,000,000 bushels. With everybody except soldiers and sailors conserving it we should be able to make a big cut in this.

Not only shall we have a magnificent wheat crop, but oats and rye show indications of splendid harvests. Potatoes may not turn out well; the crop of 1917 was so great that many farmers reduced acreage this year. But we shall have enough to live on and keep our friends going; and Mr. Hoover may be able to breathe easily for a short time.

Rintelen, London and the Threat of Frightfulness Against Americans.

Of the German citizenship of Captain Lieutenant FRANK RINTELEN, a convicted criminal under the laws of the United States now doing time for his audacious offenses against the laws of this country, there is no question. It is acknowledged by the Berlin Government, which demands his exchange for one STEPHEN PAUL LONDON, a native of Leipzig, who was naturalized here in 1887 and is now serving a sentence of ten years in Germany, imposed after conviction by a court-martial as a spy. But the United States does not acknowledge that London is one of its citizens. After admission to citizenship in 1887 he went to Europe, and since 1903 he has been a resident of Warsaw.

Under the act of March 2, 1907, a naturalized citizen who shall have resided for two years in the foreign State from which he came, or for five years in any other foreign State, is presumed to have lost American citizenship, in the absence of the performance of certain prescribed formalities to retain it. London neglected to meet these requirements, and the State Department consequently does not recognize the status he appears to claim and the German Government assumes he possesses.

The reasons for such forfeiture of citizenship as has occurred in London's case are well known. For many years citizenship in the United States was grossly abused by persons who acquired it with the definite intention to dwell in other lands and to use it merely for the protection and exemptions it afforded abroad. To correct this abuse the law of 1907 was enacted, and it has relieved us of many illegitimate citizens, for which we are profoundly thankful.

From this it is plain that the Imperial German Government has proposed an exchange of prisoners in inequitable and unjust to this country, and this fact must have been apparent to the Ministers of that Government, for they coupled their proposal with a threat. In these words:

"In order to lend greater emphasis to the protests which have been lodged with the American Government, the German Government contemplates some appropriate measures of reprisal.

"It would, however, prefer to avoid the contingency that persons be taken and made to suffer because the Government of the United States was apparently not sufficiently compliant of its international obligations toward a German subject."

To this threat Secretary LANSING has replied in a spirit and with a promptness that will win the laurels

diates and unqualified approval of every American citizen. He says:

"The threat of the German Government to retaliate by making Americans in Germany suffer clearly implies that the Government proposes to adopt the principle that the reprisals occasioning physical suffering are legitimate and necessary in order to enforce demands from one belligerent to another.

"The Government of the United States acknowledges no such principle and would suggest that it would be wise for the German Government to consider that if it acts upon that principle it will inevitably be understood to invite similar reciprocal action on the part of the United States with respect to the great number of German subjects in this country.

"It is assumed that the German Government before acting will give due consideration and due weight to this consideration."

Heretofore the Imperial German Government has practiced frightfulness without let or hindrance, but if its Ministers believed that its record of brutality would intimidate the United States they were led into error, from which Secretary LANSING's words should extricate them.

No Proof That Methuselah Was a Fresh Air Flood.

The subjoined paragraph is one that might be classified as "interesting, if true":

"BOSTON, June 7.—METHUSELAH lived to become more than 900 years old because he was the first real fresh air crank and lived out of doors day and night. Dr. VINCENT Y. BOWDITCH declared to-day at the annual meeting of the National Tuberculosis Association in session here."

If Dr. BOWDITCH has evidence that METHUSELAH was a fresh air crank it should be added to the precious little that is known about the patriarch. The Bible tells hardly anything about Noah's grandfather except that he was and that he lived 900 years. If it had been the fortune of NIMROD or ISHMAEL to have lived the longest of all men, then Dr. BOWDITCH would have better ground to stand on. NIMROD's occupation took him out into the open air and probably he slept where nightfall caught him when he pursued game. ISHMAEL, being a wild man, may have had no habitation; he very likely went about hatless, like HARRY KEMP, and costless, like the Man in White.

The nearest in longevity to METHUSELAH was JARED, 962 years, and NOAH, 950 years. Of JARED's hygienic habits we know nothing, but there is proof that NOAH was not—or at least not just after his 600th year—a fresh air fiend. It was eight months and twenty-three days after the beginning of the Flood that NOAH "opened the window of the ark which he had made." This stuffy experience may have had an effect upon SHAM, a mere boy of 100 at the time, for we know that later he went in for tent life and that his brother JARHETH dwelt with him.

The early Fathers did not attribute the longevity of the antediluvians to fresh air. JOSEPHUS believed that it came from their nearness to the Creation, their better food and their virtue. Many Bible students hold that the descendants of ADAM lived in houses from the first. CAIN "built a city," which presupposes dwellings, taken in connection with the declaration in Genesis IV, 20, that CAIN's great-grandfather, JARHETH, "was the father of such as dwell in tents." But METHUSELAH was not of this pastoral strain, being a descendant of SETH, the oldest of all men must have known houses, for he lived until about the year of the Deluge and it is illogical to think that the complicated ark built by his grandson, with its three stories, its rooms, windows and doors, was NOAH's first attempt in architecture.

It was unnecessary for Dr. BOWDITCH to go back so far and so uncertainly. He might with less fear of contradiction have insisted that if Old PAUL had not been dragged from his fresh air to the close rooms of London he would be living yet, perhaps in a sleeping porch.

The Meaning of a German Monarchy in Finland.

A despatch to THE SUN from Stockholm, quoting the *Politiken*, which has shown in the past to have had reliable sources of information among the Independent Socialists of Germany, says that a secret agreement has been entered into between the Finnish Government and Germany by which the Government is to force through the Diet a measure establishing a monarchy under a German dynasty. It also consents to hand over the islands of Aland or a part of the opposite coast for a German naval base and to permit the use of Finland as a passageway to the Arctic Ocean.

The importance of this intelligence lies in the fact that what Finland intends to do now that she has secured freedom from Russia does not concern the Finns alone. The world would unquestionably approve of the realization of their long expressed ambition to establish a separate independent State. But the plan outlined in the despatch implies merely the building of a northern outpost of German imperialism. It means the conquest of another small nation by militarism to complete the German mastery from the Arctic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea, a German dominance of the Scandinavian countries which would control the shipping of northern Europe and the fishing of Norway and would completely cut off Russia from direct communication with America and western Europe.

The conditions that give an air of probability to this report of an effort of the Finns at present in control of the Government to sell out their country

are much the same as have existed in other parts of Russia which Germany has taken over. There is today as there has always been a strong pro-German party in Finland. It has been made up largely of a wealthy landowning class that has enjoyed certain feudal rights and that has considered itself vested with a measure of autocratic social power. In the past this class was usually the supporter of Czarism as against the spirit of democracy because it believed that Russian autocracy would support it in its special privileges.

At the time of the revolution this class was the first to call in German aid. It carried on in Finland the propaganda launched at Berlin, and it established newspapers which praised the successes of Germany and lauded the Kaiser as "the exponent of German Kultur and the great protector of the Lutheran faith."

It sent young Finns to serve in the German army and then later to return as officers and leaders of the so-called "White Guard." It has been especially active in denouncing all opponents of its scheme of Prussianization as "the scum of the country, outlaws and felons."

There are undoubtedly two very active parties in Finland. There is no more reason to believe that all of the supporters of the Finnish Government or of the "White Guard" are in favor of handing Finland over to Germany than there is to believe that all of the opponents of the Government are defenders of the "Red Guard" are felons and anarchists. The Finnish people have too long been struggling for their freedom to imagine that they would willingly exchange Russian autocracy for the still greater oppression of German militarism. The hope is that the best elements in the two conflicting parties may combine. In that case the menace of Germanism would be defeated and a free and independent Finn State established.

Unnecessary Warning to Coal Users.

Under the headline "Coal users are again warned by the Fuel Administration to place orders for winter," the *Official Bulletin* prints this as part of the Administrator's official urging:

"The country must give its attention to the coal problem during the warm weather. The natural tendency to forget about coal when heat is not immediately needed must be overcome."

Temper, manners are overcome; morals are in danger!

Does not Dr. GARFIELD know that the present warmth of the weather is caused by heat radiating from frantic citizens who long ago placed their orders for next winter's coal and who are told in response to their daily telephonings, letters, telegrams and personal encounters that there is no available coal?

If the country should suddenly cease being hot about the present coal shortage, the cessation of heat waves would freeze the Atlantic.

The Returned Soldier.

What is the effect of war service upon a man's spirituality? We have heard from some that it is deadening, from more that it awakens and uplifts. It evidently has made beasts of a great number of German soldiers; no one can read the Bryce report on the atrocities in Belgium without feeling that unredeemed mental and physical monsters were aroused among the invaders. The French have shown the world a fine spiritual side of their nature that many had believed to be non-existent. The likelihood is that it was always present; such a flame could not be spring from dead coals. America, in the war only a little while, gives satisfying signs of spiritual and mental elevation.

A man who has been studying the effect of war on the mentality and temperament of wounded British soldiers make a curious report in the *Nineteenth Century and After*. He is Corporal WAND MUIR, who has been attached for a long time to a London war hospital as an orderly. He has not viewed the immediate mental effect of battle or going into battle, but the results of pain, of blindness, of impending death. He had heard a good deal of talk about "our mentality being ominously modified by the war" and about the returned soldier never being the same again. Mr. MUIR hopes that there will be changes, but does the man who has faced danger, mud, filth, who has killed and in turn has been wounded—does he come back with an altered outlook upon life? Temperament, says the orderly, is not easily transformed.

"Hate and jealousy may alter a man, but physical suffering, unless continually sustained, leaves him in the long run much as it found him. His body forgets."

There are two exceptions. The obvious one is in the case of a wound in the head which affects the brain; the result of this is likely to be anything. The only other wound which is likely to modify a man's after career and his character is blindness. The soldiers who lose their sight of course never forget the loss, yet it is often, in other respects, a gain:

"These men furnish forth the only examples I have met of a phenomenon which preachers always try to make us believe in. It is a powerful agent, a superman to stop this scandalous waste and extravagance. Print paper comes high, and must be purchased in competition with the Government purchases to issue millions of copies of political speeches which nobody reads, for which nobody reads."

Stickling.

From the Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Ray, little thirties stamp, I'll stick to you, and you stick to my card.

I know of not one of whom I should not surmise that he is, broadly, a 'better' man than he was before. Even material this has sometimes been, to one's astonishment, obvious. I know of one man who before the war held a certain small position in a business. He lost his eyesight, and for a while despaired. Attempts were made to teach him the usual blind men's handicrafts, but he hoped and failed to learn. Then the commanding officer of the institution in which this patient was harbored was seized with a bright idea. He got the blind man back into his former business; the employer was persuaded to give him a trial and place a secretary at his disposal. The blind man, who had previously been a mere back at low grade pay, threw himself into the business with such zest, with such sharpened intelligence, that he has risen to a far more important position in the firm and is drawing—and is worth—a salary which in former days he would not have dreamt of aspiring to."

Mr. MUIR tells another story of a man who was a laborer, generally unhappy, before he lost his sight. Since his blindness he has found a new and better paying business and a wife who would not have married him in his former crude condition. These are one man's observations, and, as he says, he finds war a tangle of paradoxes and incongruities. Good is discovered where it is least expected; bad is found where the noble is looked for.

The Greatest Brook Trout in the World.

The reported capture of a brook trout weighing fifteen pounds in the State that exports tall fish stories will set tongues wagging as to how large a brook trout can grow. Maine delights in these stories because, in the language adopted by a certain city as a slogan, it has the goods. Until the Rangle Lake region began to tell about its big trout, even scientists doubted. It is said that when one of these large brook trout was sent to the late Professor AGASSIZ he remarked that the science of a lifetime was kicked into smithereens by a fact.

Strange as it may seem, a brook trout taken on the rod in 1867 by GEORGE SHEPARD PAGE of New York was the world's record for almost half a century. It was brought alive by express wagon and railroad to Mr. PAGE's home in New Jersey and at its death weighed 10 pounds and 1 ounce, although the fish had not eaten during its three weeks of captivity. The trout was 30 inches long, 18 inches in circumference and 7 inches in diameter, and experts believed that in its lifetime it must have weighed 12½ pounds.

That was the generally accepted weight, and while the Pine Tree State is proud of the man crop which distinguishes itself when opportunity offers it has the highest regard for its angling statistics. It has never lowered its colors to any other State, and only once to Canada, and that three years ago, when Dr. J. W. COOK of Fort William, Ontario, captured at the foot of the McDonald rapids a brook trout of 14½ pounds that the 25,000 people of that town eagerly turned out to see.

If the fifteen pound fish of Maine is authenticated the increasing of brook trout to Maine will not diminish the number of anglers who will want to go there and try their luck. EDWIN W. SANBORN of this city, who was announced through THE SUN some years ago the capture of the world's record brook trout, believes that the trout country of the future lies in the northern wilderness of the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, up to the latitude of James's Bay.

Up in that region four years ago he took on a single Parmachenee Belle fly on a five and a half ounce rod ten brook trout that weighed 75 pounds. In Lake Umbagog, in the deep woods of Chamboord, Quebec, KIR CLARKE of Brooklyn a quarter of a century ago, one of a party of three, within two hours angling caught twelve brook trout weighing 56½ pounds and wrote a story for THE SUN about it.

Thus the horizon of trout seekers has widened. The new record fish lies just beyond where the sky and the stream meet.

The next eclipse of the sun visible hereabouts is scheduled for August, 2017, and judging from yesterday's performance in this latitude it will not be worth waiting for.

Not starting New York street car lines until 6 o'clock in the morning would trouble a numerous company of people, but to stop them at 10 o'clock in the evening would excite wonder why anybody bothered to start them at all.

PATRICK HURON, who was at the helm when the *Textel* was shelled, is going to war. PAT was wounded, but that is not what will send him over there; his new serge suit was slashed most insultingly by shrapnel. The surgeon has no much terror for some men as has the tailor.

I understand that more than 1,000,000 copies of one political speech have been printed and sent out from the Government Printing Office—Representative DRYN.

Owing to that and other similar abuses the Government Printing Office is unable to print important papers for which there is a proper demand. Pity there cannot be found a superman to stop this scandalous waste and extravagance. Print paper comes high, and must be purchased in competition with the Government purchases to issue millions of copies of political speeches which nobody reads, for which nobody reads.

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From the Memphis Commercial Appeal.

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THE PAY OF THE POLICEMAN AND THE FIREMAN.

The Generous and Just Attitude of Taxpayers Illustrated.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Permit me to congratulate Mr. Munsey on the courageous position he has taken with respect to the salaries of the members of our police force.

As representing some of the largest tax paying corporations in the city, I am keenly alive to the necessity of economy in city administration, but that economy should not be exacted from the splendid men who are consecrating themselves to the protection of life and property in this great metropolis.

An average of the average policeman in New York is no more than is earned by an industrious hawker, yet the demands of a policeman's work call for an unusual type of man.

A few days ago I happened to go into a little cottage in the suburbs of Brooklyn and found there a policeman whose analysis of the present situation and his splendid respect for years on one of the busiest thoroughfares in New York. I learned something of the rigid economy that he was subjected to in his efforts to respectably raise a family of five small children, and my heart was touched at the thought of the difference between this figure in old clothes working in the garden and the man who controlled the movement of traffic where a million dollars in automobiles passed in an hour.

The immediate respect that the police force of New York commands through its dignity and authority is especially emphasized by this figure in old clothes working in the garden and the man who controlled the movement of traffic where a million dollars in automobiles passed in an hour.

We should give decent wages to our police to preserve our own self-respect, but our obligation is far deeper when we consider the character of man we expect to seek the position and the standard of living he is presumed to maintain.

WILLIAM E. HARMON.
NEW YORK, June 8.

Organized Cooperation of Citizens Suggested.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: As a reader of both THE SUN and THE EVENING SUN I wish to congratulate Mr. Munsey upon his excellent article on the Police Department, and hope he will continue his arguments until something is done for New York's finest and greatest departments, especially in such times as the present.

I had the pleasure of meeting personally on Wednesday night Police Commissioner ELLIOT, and in his speech he expressed the same sentiments that you mentioned this morning.

Isn't there some way we citizens could get together and bring to the notice of the proper city authorities the matter of raising policemen's wages?

LAWRENCE S. HELLER.
NEW YORK, June 7.

From the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Mr. Munsey's appeal this morning to the citizens of New York in behalf of the policemen and firemen of this city is the laudable of one of the most noble and civic projects that has been placed before the residents and visitors to the greater city since the war broke out four years ago. The cause is a most worthy one. He has placed the case squarely before thousands of our best thinking citizens and has fallen short only in the number of reasons advanced for the appeal.

There is no need of recounting here all the charitable, meritorious and brave deeds of the finest force of its kind in the world, from the finding of lost lots and promptly restoring them to their parents, to the willing sacrifice of their lives in the protection of life and property. All this is well known to the people of New York.

We as a corporation and many of our stockholders as individuals are the owners of real estate within the city limits. We were hardly overcome with joy when we learned that the city was to increase in the rate this year, but we wish to go on record here and say that we would gladly accede to a further increase provided there is a substantial increase also in the salaries paid to the two uniformed departments, namely the police and fire, that every boy born in New York city has ever been proud of.

As an evidence of our desire to help bring about this good result we shall respectfully submit to the Building Room and Bowling Alley Proprietors' Association of this city the suggestion that they and their vast number of patrons, practically all of whom are American citizens, stand behind the movement and cooperate with other civic organizations as to bring about with as little delay as possible this consummation that is devoutly to be wished.

THE BRUNSWICK-BALKE-COLLENDER COMPANY.
By T. A. BRYANT, Secretary-Treasurer.
NEW YORK, June 7.

From Former Commissioner R. A. C. Smith.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I have read with great interest Mr. Munsey's vigorous and admirable argument in THE SUN of June 7 concerning the inadequate compensation of New York policemen. As a member of the Police Promotion Board in 1908 I advanced similar argument and have always advocated it, and if good reasons have been existing for such an argument during these years, they are more than doubled in the present state of things.

With your powerful and eloquent forum like THE SUN you will surely make headway in this worthy cause, and you can count on me for any help I might be able to give.

R. A. C. SMITH.
NEW YORK, June 8.

HUNT THE HUN: A GAME.

Roam the Atlantic Highlands and Look for Pariaques.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: If I am in order I should like to suggest to all our sportive Americans that a new game may be started which will be highly amusing and useful, likewise patriotic. It is "Hunting the Hun." It is played this way: A powerful apparatus is procured, and the hunter hies himself and herself into the highlands of the Atlantic coast, where he and she may contest as to which shall discover the most periscope. When you discover a Hun outlying area, you telegraph or telephone to the nearest naval station and the boys in blue will be sent. You will find this pastime very interesting. It need not interfere at all with your duties as society folk.

Now that the hungry Hun has got to our shores, like the ravenous shark that he is, give him as warm an American reception as he can receive.

T. W. W.
NEW YORK, June 8.

THE VETERAN OF 1864.

I scarce can tend the little job That's left me to do.

I stop and wonder in the street, I start and stumble on my feet, And dandelize, half out loud repeat: "Are the Germans broken through?"

My mind goes over there in France Along the fighting lines. I read the papers morn and night Interpretin' the signs: The British mased up, and the French Stampin' and rearin' in the trench, Burstin' shells, the dead man's stench And General Foch's designs.

I fire up fierce, by all the pow'r, Like battle bugles blown. One squad, by guns they hold 'em fast: One corps or two will hold 'em fast.

While one good flag is down— Half a million boys of ours, And two of them my own!

Draggin' a market basket: I ought to be totin' a gun. A man ain't condemned to the casket When his crime's but seventy-one. Troublin' 'bout scraps of pork and cheese.

And the world with war in flames, Like hell was loose, and we'd lost the keys.

As it used to be down on the James. How can I recollect the things That I'm sent out to buy: Half pound of this, an ounce of that, Some of it lean, some of it fat, When gunners' roarin' night? I'm out again in the Wilderness. I'm fightin' under Grant— The day the Johnnies gave us Jess— Until we saw 'em, guns and guns— And I made prairie of a reb.

Who ran and stopped to pant. Him under Lee and me under Grant.

Well, we two ornery outlin' bums After the war was the greatest chum. My, I could spout them days! Now I can't scarcely get around. Shaky knee joints, feet like logs. A wee might deaf, too.

Gee, what's the matter? Say, tell me, tell me straight and true What is it the shoutin' extry cries? They're stopped; they can't break through!

They're plugged and bound!

I knew it—the German sons of dogs, Made in the hellhound's image. Two millions of such warn't near enough. Gosh, that's the stuff!

I knew that the lads on watch and ward Would hold God's allied line As the pillars of fire before Is'el stood. And right in the scrimmage Two boys of mine, One at Cantigny and one at Veully Wood!

No, I can't bother 'bout chores to-day. Feelin' none more like a fightin' man. I don't give a whoop for their submachine.

They don't amount here to a hill of beans: It's over in France that the hits are scored. I'm too worked up to stop and pray. But when such merces He does accord, I stand as near straight as I can. And take my hat off to the Lord. He'll understand.

JOSEPH I. C. CLARKE.

IN PRAISE OF LOUIS.

The Greatest Corrective Influence of the Age Is Appreciated.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Your correspondent "L. C." on the subject of Supreme Intellect undoubtedly refers to Louis.

"The world is full of excellent maxims: what we miss is their application," he quotes from Pascal. Do we not find both the maxims and their application in Louis?

As a caricature of the concept that dwells to a greater or lesser extent in each of us, if not in our community as a whole, Louis has drawn a picture which is the most realistic mirror of nature in which we can "see ourselves as others see us." For does not conceit become a caricature in the observed in the eyes of the observer?

By studying this analysis of self as expounded by our friend "The Supreme Spirit of the Spheres" may we not gain therefrom certain hints of self-correction, which, when carried into effect automatically, increase our practical value? Let us not stand with one ear cocked up and the other linked and stupidly contemplate Louis out of axes' eyes. He deserves our most earnest indebtedness.

Lyrical poetry and hyperbolic rhetoric have, for instance, been applied to armies in warfare through all the ages to the negation of wisdom, and where such application has been the most pronounced these armies, like the ass, have had to have a fire built under them to increase their efficiency.

In producing our Liberty motors, our small arms, our equipment for the destruction of U-boats, etc., let us first consult Louis before we proceed. He may help us to separate the chaff from the buckwheat. Long live Louis, "The Supreme Corrective Spirit of the Spheres!"

E. A. K.
PLAINFIELD, N. J., June 8.

The Spirit of the Spheres Needs Neither Telephone Nor Doorbell.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Who is this Louis M. Ellishmush? I have searched the New York telephone directory through to find his name, but it is not there. Such a famous name, but the Peerless Post, the Supreme Spirit of the Spheres, the most illustrious of painters and art critics, who to-day tell the world that our art of modern times cannot compare with the famous painters who have gone before us, the accepted authority on sculpture, a most renowned philosopher, who at the age of 19 (or was it 17?), by his own admission, wrote a treatise on the "Theory of Light and Why the Sky Is Blue," refuting the theory and statements of a famous college professor on the same subject. Can it be possible that such a genius seeks to hide his light under a bushel by keeping his name out of the telephone book? I expected to find it emblazoned at the top of each column devoted to the letter E.

Has he enlisted or been drafted? It seems to me if he has not Uncle Sam has missed one good bet. Put him into the army at once and make him generalissimo at once, putting him in line of Foch. Set him to work writing Peerless Poetry and Pustillanous Prose, and when the Germans see him advancing with his thousands of books on his right hand and his tens of thousands of poems on his left they would know that Kultur was beaten once and for all and would thereupon turn around and flee to Berlin as fast as their legs could carry them. In this way the war could quickly and humanely be brought to an end with Louis dictating peace terms for